



JUDICIAL PROFILE

Penny Willrich was appointed a Superior Court Judge in September 1999 and is assigned to the Criminal Court Department at the Southeast facility in Mesa. Prior to her appointment as a judge, she worked as a Superior Court Commissioner in Juvenile Court and the Criminal Department for four years. Judge Willrich was the Assistant Director of the Division of Children and Family Services for the Arizona Department of Economic Security from 1992 until 1994. She worked with Community Legal Services between 1987 and 1992, representing criminal defendants, juvenile offenders and domestic relations' litigants. Between 1991 and 1995, she also served as a judge pro tem with Superior Court.

Judge Willrich received the University of Texas at Arlington, African American Alumni Award in 1999. She also received the Leadership Award from the Black Women's Taskforce in 1996 and the NAACP's 1994 Community Service Award and the 1993 Distinguished Service Award from the Hayzel B. Daniels Bar Association. She has participated in the YWCA Teen Mother/Teen Father Mentor Program, the Phoenix Birthing Project and the New Life Shelter, Inc. Judge Willrich received a law degree in 1982 from the Antioch-District of Columbia School of Law and Bachelor of Arts Degrees in Political Science and History in 1973 and 1976, respectively, from the University Texas at Arlington. She is currently the president of the Hayzel B. Daniels Bar Association, a member of the Commission on Minorities and she serves on the State Bar's Ethics Committee and Editorial Board.

